

REMARKS

Claims 37-43 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because Applicants had removed the previously claimed structural limitations for the intermediate. The structural limitations have been re-inserted. Since the amended claims are limited to polyethylene glycol intermediate, x is now 2 in the structural formula. The amended claims are now believed to comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph and the Examiner is respectfully requested to remove this rejection.

Claims 1, 4, 6-8, 13-19, 23, 25, 27, 29-36 and 45-50 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, because the specification was enabling for the production of thermoplastics from difunctional reactants but not for higher than difunctional reactants. Claims 1-36 have been cancelled. Claims 45-50, as amended, now recite only difunctional reactants for the polyurethane. The isocyanate is difunctional, polyethylene glycol by definition can only be difunctional, and the aromatic glycol chain extenders recited in the Markush group are all difunctional. The amended claims 45-50 are believed to comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and the Examiner is respectfully requested to remove this rejection.

Claims 1-4, 6-19, 22, 23, 25-27 and 29-36 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Shah ('852). These claims (1-36) have been cancelled, thus this rejection is now moot.

Amendments

Claims 1-36 have been cancelled.

Claim 37 has been amended to reinstate the structural formula of the alkylene oxide. The aromatic glycol chain extender has been limited to the Markush group of chain extenders, which are all difunctional compounds. The basis for the Markush group of chain extenders can be found in Paragraph 0019 on pages 5-6 of the Specification as filed. The hydroxyl terminated polyether intermediate is now limited to polyethylene glycol, therefore, x in the structural formula must be 2. Polyethylene glycol by definition is difunctional.

Claim 44 was amended to recite the preferred aromatic glycol chain extender as 1,4-di(2-hydroxyethoxy) benzene, which is the same compound as hydroquinone bis (2-hydroxyethyl)

ether, but the former is believed to be a more correct chemical name and agrees with the language of claim 37.

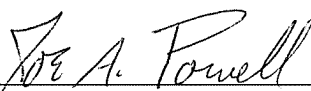
Claim 45 was amended similar to claim 37 described above.

Claim 49 was amended similar to claims 37 and 45 described above.

Claim 51 was amended similar to claim 44 described above.

The amended claims are believed to comply with 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, and the claims that were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102 have been cancelled. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider the rejections and allow the amended claims.

Respectfully submitted,



Joe A. Powell

Attorney for Applicants

Reg. No. 28,108

Noveon, Inc.
9911 Brecksville Road
Cleveland, Ohio 44141-3247
Ph: (216) 447-5716
Fax: (216) 447-5933

Date: November 3, 2006
201ES034AAF.doc